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5 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
6 Plaintiff,  
7 v.  
8 PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC  
9 COMPANY,  
10 Defendant.

Case No. 14-cr-00175-TEH

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**ORDER REFERRING DISCOVERY  
TO A MAGISTRATE JUDGE**

19 At 6:59 PM on Friday, December 4, Defendant Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
20 (“PG&E”) filed a motion (Docket No. 198) requesting leave to file four discovery motions  
21 on Monday, December 7.<sup>1</sup> PG&E seeks to have these motions heard on the 14-day  
22 schedule provided by Criminal Local Rule 47-2 rather than the 21-day schedule required  
23 by this Court’s standing order. In part, PG&E seeks a compressed schedule based on the  
24 January 4, 2016 deadline for filing motions in limine. While PG&E contends that good  
25 cause exists for allowing leave to file these four motions at this time, it does not explain  
26 why some or all of the motions could not have been brought earlier.

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28 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that all discovery disputes, including whether PG&E  
should be allowed leave to file these four additional motions, are now referred to a  
magistrate judge. If the assigned magistrate judge determines that additional motion  
practice should be allowed but that a decision cannot reasonably be issued in time for the  
parties to file motions in limine by January 4, 2016, then this Court will entertain a  
stipulation and proposed order to continue the trial date and pretrial deadlines, including  
the deadline to file motions in limine. If an extension is warranted but the parties cannot  
reach complete agreement, then the parties shall file a joint statement setting forth all areas

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<sup>1</sup> Leave of court is now required to file any motions other than motions in limine. Order for Pretrial Preparation at 3 (Docket No. 64).

1 of agreement and their respective positions on all areas of disagreement; this statement  
2 must include a discussion of any implications under the Speedy Trial Act.

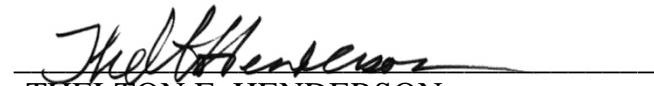
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4 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

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6 Dated: 12/07/15

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THELTON E. HENDERSON  
United States District Judge

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